

CHEMICAL FACILITY SAFETY - RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN (RMP)

ISSUE/TOPIC: Actions on chemical facility safety and status of the RMP Amendments Rule

BACKGROUND:

- The Clean Air Act requires that facilities handling more than a threshold quantity of certain extremely hazardous chemical substances must implement a risk management program. The EPA has identified approximately 12,500 RMP facilities of which approximately 1,900 are designated high risk RMP facilities.
- The RMP program contains three elements: a hazard assessment, a prevention program, and an emergency response program. The entire program is to be described and documented in a risk management plan which is submitted to the EPA.
- The RMP Amendments rule modified or added several provisions regarding the prevention of accidental releases, emergency response preparedness, and information sharing with the public. It was published January 13, 2017, with an original effective date of March 14, 2017.
- The EPA received three Petitions for Reconsideration under CAA Section 307(d) from:
 - The "RMP Coalition" (American Chemistry Council, American Forest & Paper Alliance, American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers, American Petroleum Institute, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, National Association of Manufacturers, Utility Air Regulatory Group)
 - The Chemical Safety Advocacy Group (a coalition of co.'s from affected sectors)
 - State Attorneys General (AR, AZ, FL, KS, LA, OK, SC, TX, WV, WI) and KY Governor
- Petitioners raised concerns that the final rule creates security risks and is unduly burdensome.
- EPA agreed to conduct a reconsideration proceeding, and on June 14, 2017 published a final rule to extend the effective date of the RMP Amendments rule to February 19, 2019.
- The accident at the Arkema chemical plant in Crosby, Texas that occurred on August, 31, 2017, did not involve RMP chemicals.
- Funding: The FY 2018 Budget requests \$10 million and 46.9 FTE for the State and Local Prevention and Preparedness program or a decrease of \$5.3 million and 27.3 FTE from the FY 2017 Annualized Continuing Resolution.

TALKING POINTS:

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5